GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2388
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2002
EXCESS EXPENDITURE UNDER ARWSP
PRABHUNATH SINGH;RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governmentincurred excess expenditure of Rs.348.43 crore for ARWSPfrom the state Plan funds as mentioned in the C&AG Report No. 3 of 1998 (Civil) on page 113 in para 6.6.3;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government against the responsible officials in the matter;

(d) whether the entire amount of Rs.348.43 crore has since been recovered/adjusted from States out of the release of money as assured in para 6.6.3;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be recovered?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL)

(a) to (f): The Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (No.3 of 1998) for the yearended 31st March, 1997, Chapter-VI which reviews the implementation of National Drinking Water Mission during the period 1992-97, for all States except Madhya Pradesh, was presented in Parliament on 11th June,1998.

The Report, interalia, has observed that 17 State Governments met excessexpenditure of Rs.348.43 crore from Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme funds.
. Rural Water Supply is a State subject and drinking water facilities to ruralhabitations are provided under the State Sector funds. The Central Governmentendeavour to supplement the efforts of the States by providing assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The powers to plan, sanctionand implement Rural Water Supply schemes under the above programmes rest with the State Governments.

The Action Taken Report on the observations concerning each State wasobtained. The reports received indicate that all the concerned States have taken remedial action in respect of most of the observations contained in the CAG Report. The ActionTaken Note, based on the information thus compiled, was got vetted by the PrincipalDirector of Audit, New Delhi and submitted to the Lok Sabha Secretariat, PublicAccounts Committee (PAC) Branch on 22nd June, 1999 through the Ministry of Finance,Department of Expenditure (Monitoring Cell).

Excess amount irregularly met from Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programmefunds was recovered from Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme funds released to the following states:

Sl.No. Name of State Amount Recovered from ARWSP funds during

1. Gujarat Rs.631.50 lakhs from 2nd instalment of 1997-98

2. Karnataka Rs.193 lakhs from 2nd instalmement of 1998-99

3. Orissa Rs.150.62 lakhs from 1st instalment of 1998-99

4. Punjab Rs.257 lakhs from 2nd instalment of 1997-98 and
   1st instalment of 1998-99

5. Rajasthan Rs.1040.91 lakhs from 2nd instalment of 1997-98
6. Sikkim Rs.32.88 lakhs from 1st instalment of 1998-99

7 Tamil Nadu Rs.246.08 lakhs from 2nd instalment of 1997-98

8. Uttar Pradesh Rs.2455 lakhs from 2nd instalment of 1997-98

9. West Bengal Rs.1673.09 lakhs from 1st instalment of 1998-99

Total Rs.6680.08 lakhs